

The New Student

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ST. OLAF STUDENTS MAKE SINGING TRIP

Minnesota Choristers Break Long Distance Record with Far Western Trip

When a travel weary group of St. Olaf students, composing the St. Olaf Choir, recently returned to Northfield, Minnesota they had broken the long distance record for musical organization tours. It was even a greater feat than when they crossed the Atlantic several years ago and sang before the King and Queen of Norway.

Singing their way through South Dakota and Montana, the choir crossed the Rockies and passed into Washington, visited British Columbia. Then they went southward through Portland, Oregon, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Berkeley and finally made a jaunt down to Tijuana, Mexico. The choir then turned eastward, through Colorado, Utah, Kansas, Missouri, Iowa and Minnesota. They had invaded fourteen states between December 18 and January 27. From 75,000 to 100,000 people had listened to the choir in 32 concerts. Countless reporters had racked their brains for unhackneyed superlatives and similes. All the important points of interest had been observed, from the fog and rain of Vancouver to the Spanish mission houses of California.

This was an entirely new territory for the St. Olaf singers and many difficulties had to be met. Many of the western cities had no concert halls. It was difficult to keep appointments because of the long distances and irregular train services, in the northern states, caused by cold weather. There were many long weary stretches between concerts, the longest being the one between Portland, Oregon and Sacramento, California, taking two nights and the intervening day.

At several places two concerts were given. To meet this situation the choir had mastered two programs. The concerts were almost invariably given before packed houses, several times before audiences of over 8,000 people.

MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE PUZZLES MANY MONTANANS

Sherlock Holmes Badly Needed; Conflicting Statements Made by Faculty and Students

¶ A thick atmosphere of mystery clings about the city of Missoula, Montana, the rocky hills about the city and, in particular, the campus of the University of Montana. A Sherlock Holmes is badly needed to unravel the puzzler that is perplexing everyone.

The plot of this mystery story centers about the payment of \$300 to Captain Cummings, the freshman football coach, for his work last fall. One group of faculty and students on the Athletic board insist that the stipend was agreed upon last

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Players Employ Native Folk-Lore

What Lady Gregory, William Butler Yeats, and John Millington Synge, tried to do for the legends and folk-tales of Ireland, Frederick H. Koch and his Carolina Playmakers are attempting to do for the folk-ways of the Carolinas. It would of course be ungenerous to compare the folk-dramas by students with the dramas that have eternally enriched the literature of Ireland. On one hand, we have genius—on the other, the effort of sensitive and gifted students, all actuated by a common aim:

"First: To promote and encourage dramatic art, especially by the production and publishing of plays.

Second: To serve as an experimental theatre for the development of plays representing the traditions and various phases of present-day life of the people.

Third: To extend its influences in the establishment of a native theatre in other communities."

That the aim of Frederick H. Koch and his Carolina Playmakers is no passing fancy is evidenced by the sincere and continued labor expended in its consummation.

The State Tours

"This season The Playmakers have completed their eighth tour of the State, taking the plays back to the people—often to the very locality in which they originated. The itinerary of the First State Tour, five years ago, included only seven of the larger towns. In the season just closed we have played to approximately twenty-five thousand people in twenty-six Carolina towns and cities—in the mountain country, in the Piedmont section, in the tidewater region. Seven hundred people came through the rain from isolated hill-farms to the new consolidated school building at Candler—a mountain settlement with scarcely a dozen inhabitants in the village proper—to witness our Playmaker performance. In the big auditorium at Raleigh we played to an audience of three thousand school teachers from every cove and corner of the State, on the occasion of the annual meeting of the North Carolina Educational Association."

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purposes of the Federation could be successfully carried out, to wit, to promote relations between American university students; to discuss student problems; to effect student cooperation; to study national and international affairs of student import; to invite relations with foreign students; and to foster the exchange of students with the various member colleges.

BIND COLLEGES INTO NATIONWIDE UNION

Is Plan of Western Institutions Who Have Formed Organization After European Plan

A national union of American college and university students, designed to promote better relations between themselves and closer cooperation with foreign students, is the aim of the National Student Federation of America, organized by students from seven western institutions, on January 1st, at the University of California.

The Federation is to be built on the plan of the European Student Union. The constitution adopted at Berkeley outlines its purposes: "To foster student co-operation, to encourage travel on the part of American college students, to provide for scholarships for American students to study abroad, to foster a spirit of friendship between students of the different nations, and to promote an interest in national affairs."

There are already almost 50,000 students included in this new organization, representing the enrollments of the University of California; University of California, Southern Branch; Leland Stanford, Junior University; University of Washington; University of Utah; Mills College, Oakland and Pomona College. Energetic plans are under way to expand the movement eastward and make it nation wide in scope. The University of Nevada is expected to join shortly.

Founding of the Federation was the result of a discussion last summer between Sir Bernard Pares of the University of London, and Honorary Treasurer of the English Student Union, and a group of men from representative colleges, at the University of California.

The enthusiastic group of students who founded the Federation discussed many subjects. Among them were:

Proposed college membership in the *Confederation Internationale des Etudiants* (the C. D. E. with headquarters in Paris). Such affiliation would give American students greater liberties and freedom in study and travel abroad, as well as opportunities to take advantage of the C. D. E. conducted educational tours to the great scientific and art centers of the Old World.

It was proposed that the National Executive Council of the Federation work out some way in which funds could be raised to establish scholarships for students of the member colleges to study either in some of the great American colleges which specialize in various lines, to send students to Europe to study or to the Orient for research work.

Summer camps were suggested for annual meetings, at which some of the real

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Editor DOUGLAS P. HASKELL
 News Editor NORMAN STUDER
 Associate Editor GEORGE D. PRATT, Jr.
 Associate Editor DAVID ROSENTHAL
 Business Manager BEATRICE COHEN

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"No Man's Thinking is Better than His Information."

—Dartmouth Student Report

MANY smiles have twinkled tolerantly upon the last editorial in this column, which pictured the ideal teacher as a sort of tough he-goat ranging on the highest rocky pastures of knowledge where food is scarce but the air is clear, or again as a 'Daemon,' a spirit obliged to sow his seed in fine young people that there it might be fruitful.

Well, the idea may be ridiculous when you think of fitting the well-known type, Professor Doctor Ph. D., L. L. D., etc. into the role. But try it on Socrates!

He was one such ungainly bare-foot wild man; he could drink all comers under the table; his love for his young bacchantes was solid and fleshly and anything but ethereal, transcendental, or what is libellously called 'Platonic.' Socrates in America would be clapped in jail at once as an offender against public decency and a debaucher of the young; the fury against him would equal that of English society against Oscar Wilde . . . Like Saint Joan, the accomplished old Sophist is one whose priests would rather praise him dead than have to deal with him alive.

And Peter Abelard, the father of the medieval university, was another such virile masculine character, to whom these very traits brought a horrible fate at the hands of his enemies. Such was his personal fascination that "people went to him from here and there, camped down on him and made him talk about such subjects as they wanted discussed—and this was the university."

The story is essentially the same, when it deals with any great teacher. "Mark Hopkins sitting on one end of a log, and a student on the other—not a bad idea of a university by any means."

THE art of teaching, as is generally known among students, has precious little to do with text-books, authorities, systems of lecturing and the like—all of which can easily become various means of onanism—and very much to do with personal vigor, toughness, virility, the capacity in the teacher for spontaneous joy and the need for its communication: what the secret itself is, none can ever say, but these positive qualities we know are a *sine qua non*.

Our experience in the presence of a real teacher is a very clear one. It suddenly becomes natural for us to be curious; we find ourselves endowed with tongues, saying without shame things we did not know were in us; the *ologies* dissolve into the

most simple and urgent problems of daily life; all the forbidding sanctities fade away from poetry and literature: we are relieved of the terrible burden of sitting on an everlasting judgment seat, in mortal fear listening to eternal lawsuits between systems of thought and assigning to philosophers and writers relative places in an imaginary hierarchy; acting as drill sergeants to men of genius from whom we fear a terrible vengeance in case of a mistake—and are permitted instead to take from each just what we need, like food and drink, with joy and sometimes even ecstasy.

But the daemonic teachers are not easy. 'Love,' says the ancient saw, 'is an infinite demander;' it would be debasing for the great searcher and friend to give away his secrets to the unworthy. He'd rather see you sweat out your nights in fear of damnation than lift a finger to solve your problems. He is merciless against your mistakes. You have to eat them out yourself. If the things which seem so simple when he speaks of them are really found by you to be of bottomless depth and not understandable to you, that depth is for you to climb. Your doubts are your own baggage, not his. Whoever is not strong enough to climb must fall.

THE 'Personality,' on the other hand, is a sympathetic man. He will help you solve your problems, he will ease your difficulties. He knows that 'it is hard to be young' and he takes pity. Things are not so bad after all. From 'experience' he knows how to lift the load, and he will lift it. He either is gently pious or gently unpious. He intrigues you by saying flashy things—which later you find in his favorite source-book. Overwhelmed at first by the splendor of his utterances, after a while you discover him trying to bribe you to accept them. In his presence, you never have the feeling that the demon often gives you, of being thrown out as not good enough. At last you find that he needs you. He needs you to confirm his doctrines and he needs you to further his schemes. You now get an inkling of his secret: it is a fundamental distrust of himself which must hide behind his many masks.

It is a sad discovery of the junior and senior, which here we are trying to pass on to the sophomore, that many 'teachers' are but very little men. In paragraph 206 of *Beyond Good and Evil*, Nietzsche gives a terrible and classic description of the pious learned man. In end, ". . . He is confiding, yet only as one who lets himself go, but does not flow; and precisely before the man of the great current he stands all the colder and more reserved—his eye is then like a smooth and irresponsible lake, which is no longer moved by rapture or sympathy. The worst and most dangerous thing of which a scholar is capable results from the instinct of mediocrity of his type, from the Jesuitism of mediocrity, which labors instinctively for the destruction of the exceptional man, and endeavors to break—or still better, to relax—every bent bow. To relax, of course, with consideration, and naturally with an indulgent hand—to relax with confiding sympathy: that is the real art of Jesuitism, which has always understood to introduce itself as the religion of sympathy."

The warfare on any campus between the Personalities and the Demons is a war to the death. And in this war, willy nilly, the students joins sides. It he is to be more than a pawn in the game, he must become an intelligent critic. Of that more later.

WIND-MILL

It was recently rumored that a group of professors are to attempt to stage a classical revival. And now the perspicacious *Windmill* points with pride to an account of what may be the rise of a cult of sartorial medievalism. He alludes to the story of the three wise men from Princeton who recently visited Presidente Coolidge. President Coolidge viewed with disapproval their flapping "Kollegiate Kut" trousers which dusted wide stretches of the White House floor as they walked about. He smilingly recommended suspenders as a remedy.

Princetonian adorns the moral: "Never interview an Amherst President on Princeton clothes."

A pair of orange and black suspenders were sent each of the three Princetonians by a suspender manufacturing firm which, *mirabile dictu*, has preferred to remain anonymous.

You're not the first, he said in accents terse
 Whose prose has gone from bad to verse.

"A man legs should be long enough to reach the ground," said President Lincoln. "Not his trousers," observes Coolidge.

Harvard Crimson reproves:

"Had President Coolidge graduated from good old Siwash out on the plains where men begin to be men, he might be pardoned for a certain old fashioned prejudice at Eastern innovations. But being a New Englander, he must know that flapping trousers are a heritage of the sea; if they penetrate to the inlands of Jersey, it must be either that they are beautiful or that the sailor sons of sailing fathers cooped up far from the shore satisfy in this way their insatiable New England longing for the ocean wave.

IN A FRESHMAN'S EYES
 (From A Volume of Worse)

A Senior stood on a railroad track
 The train was coming fast,
 The train got off the railroad track
 And let the Senior pass.
 —HELV BELZ.

It is rumored that the President of a leading belt concern has decided to contribute to the Democratic campaign fund in 1928.

And the Republicans cannot defend themselves by saying that they are fostering an infant industry.

ALREADY enough undergraduate criticism has been aroused by Vassar's smoking referendum (for correct report see page 3) for us to make some amusing deductions.

Many of the editorials are generous but ominous. "If you girls want to smoke, all right," they turgese, "but they will find that they have lost some of the respect we used to pay them. A girl with a cigaret tipped from one corner of her mouth is not a sight, etc."

Well, those were our own thoughts not very long ago, when we lived in a district
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TRAVEL

That Summer Trip

Not very long hence, yawning students in sleepy afternoon classes will realize that spring is on its way and begin to speculate on the possibilities of a summer in Europe with some degree of comfort, with congenial travelling mates, and not too great demand upon the exchequer.

Last summer a group of students formed the Student Third Class Association. This took over a party of students on the S. S. Amsterdam and brought them back on the S. S. Rotterdam in September.

By general request the project is to be expanded this year and there will be two parties, one June 20, the second June 27. The entire third class of two Holland American liners will be at the disposal of the S. T. C. A. No one but students will be admitted in these quarters.

Entertainment on shipboard will consist of informal lectures on Europe, dancing and music by college orchestras, masquerade balls, shuffle board and all the other well known shipboard games.

Although there are special S. T. C. A. tours through Europe, passage is offered to the student travelling independently.

Extra benefits, the S. T. C. A. outlines in a glowing prospectus:

Innocents Abroad. Good accommodations in Paris during the first few days after arrival.

Anxious Parents. Parents are invited to write chaperone who will give information about rules on shipboard.

Only One in Five. The S. T. C. A. has prepared a list of dentists and doctors for the unfortunate persons who fail to use Forhans.

For The Well Dressed Man. The management has also prepared a list of shops of interest in European centers.

At Princeton

To the Princeton student writing the best essay on "Princeton's greatest need," will be given the opportunity to tour Europe free next summer. The tour is offered by the United States Lines Student Tours, and its value is \$586. The route suggested includes Paris, Geneva, Rome, Florence, Venice and London. The winner of the competition may map out any tour he wishes however, provided it does not exceed \$586.

German Scholarships

When the American student begins to long for the opportunity to study in the old universities of Europe he invariably thinks of Oxford and the Rhodes Scholarship. Within a few years he may be just as likely to consider some German university as an English one. The Institute of International Education is planning an exchange of students between German and American universities. For 1925 it announces that ten fellowships will be granted by German universities. These are tenable for one year and are offered in the fields of Political Science, Economics, Sociology, History, Psychology, Literature, Education and Journalism. The fellowships will be awarded by April 1, 1925. Tuition, board and lodging during the academic year are included in the fellowships. Among the requirements are a thorough knowledge of German and a potential capacity for leadership.

The Institute announces that in promoting these fellowships it hopes to create a tradition of cooperation and reciprocity between the United States and Germany and thus help to bring about international friendship and good will.

REFERENDUM

Vassar Referendum

To correct wild and distorted statements appearing in the daily press concerning the recent smoke referendum at Vassar (*New Student of January 31*) Miss Eleanor Dodge, President of the Students Association, makes the following announcement:

"No action of any kind yet been taken.

"The questionnaire is purely an expression of student opinion. It shows that a number of students are accustomed to smoking, but the assumption made by at least one newspaper that all of these students break the college rule is totally unfounded.

"Apparently the smoking rule is broken more than any other rule, but even so there are 1,100 students in Vassar and from this number only seventeen have been reported for smoking this year.

The ECLIPSE

was a fact for the astronomer. For the educator, it was a symbol. To him it meant that ideals, however great and luminous, might suffer eclipse from the forces of darkness and educational stupor. ¶ THE NEW STUDENT is the astronomer of the educational heavens. Every week THE NEW STUDENT reports and gives pertinent comment on every phase of student life and thought. Will there be an eclipse of academic freedom in some college in the United States? THE NEW STUDENT is there in advance to tell you all about it. Has some new luminary in college art, drama, music, poetry, debate, etc. risen in the educational heavens? THE NEW STUDENT has hailed it and plotted its orbit. ¶ THE NEW STUDENT in its unique observatory, equipped with high-powered telescopes, is able to study the orbits and careers of 500 colleges and universities in the United States. If you would know your college better, you must know other colleges. Read about yourself and your kindred in

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"Before the student assembly votes one way or the other, the Joint Committee of Faculty and Students will meet to discuss the advisability of changing the rule.

"If the assembly eventually votes to change the rule the action must be approved by the faculty to become effective."

By an overwhelming majority the student body at Amherst College endorsed a resolution asking the authorities to abolish compulsory chapel. They characterized compulsory chapel as an "antiquated institution."

JOURNALISM

JOSEPH PULITZER: HIS LIFE AND LETTERS.

The Manager of the New York World reviews his own story of the life of a great journalist.

I venture the hope that this volume will be of value to the students of the forty-two schools of journalism that have become adjuncts to American colleges since Mr. Joseph Pulitzer proclaimed his purpose to found such an institution at Columbia University, New York, in 1904. That it was nearly a decade in getting under way gave other schools a chance to apply the idea long in advance of what was meant to be a parent institution.

In the chapter on "Benefactions," covering Mr. Pulitzer's gifts to education and the arts, I have given much space to the School of Journalism, especially to the views of its founder in proposing such an undertaking. They are refreshingly frank in dealing with college education in general and its failure to give that special knowledge which newspaper-making requires.

Beside journalism, I think the college student who desires to improve his mind and to know how men overcome difficulties, will find in Mr. Pulitzer's life a great stimulus. He hated the words "self-made," well knowing that there is no such man. Each must take from others to complement himself. He did this to the fullest extent—and the book tells the story.

Strange as it may appear to the average student, he learned much from a professor, the late Thomas Davidson, a paragon of learning whom he pumped almost dry. It will be noted that he applied the suction and that the instructor did not have to drive it in with a club. A certain amount of receptiveness always helps an educator!

I think, beside, the book shows a very "human" being. Mr. Pulitzer made no effort to camouflage himself and only lived one kind of a life. He did not "pretend" in any sense of the word. Indeed, it was one of his great weaknesses that he could be nothing but genuine. If he could only have taken on a little cant he might live as one sanctified. Several successful publishers owe their millions to this singular ability. It was not possible to get a bit of snivel past his fierce, searching mind. Prudence was the least of his possessions. Yet he won!

The book is not legendary. It is as near correct as records and human memory can make it. Perhaps that is the reason why it has been so kindly received. Indeed, the most gratifying note I have observed in the friendly welcomes is that "Mr. Pulitzer would have liked it himself."

DON C. SEITZ.

PERSONAL

"Not Justified"

Dean Roscoe Pound, of the Harvard Law School had definitely declined the offer of the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin to become President of that institution.

After a meeting with a committee of the Board which came from Madison, Wis. to interview him, Dean Pound declined the University Presidency in a statement which follows, in part:

"The offer of the Presidency of the University of Wisconsin is very attractive both to my wife and myself . . . Mrs. Pound and I are Westerners, and both of us graduates of a State University and both of us believers in the Western system of co-educational State universities.

"On the other hand, years ago I deliberately devoted myself to legal education, legal research, and endeavored by teaching and writing to promote the most effective administration of justice . . .

"I do not feel justified on mere grounds of personal inclination toward life in the West or in a Western academic community in deserting something that I have definitely taken up as a life task."

CAROLINA PLAYMAKERS

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 2)

A Theatre of the People

"Our Eighth State Tour, last spring, through the mountains of western North Carolina was made in a big white automobile coach, designated The Playmakers' Special. This provided very comfortable accommodations for our troupe of twenty and their baggage. Trailing behind The Playmakers' Special came the other car of our little caravan—a Henry Ford truck for hauling our homemade stage equipment all compactly crated, even to the little box containing our only piece of live property, the

black rooster, indispensable to the performance of the play of that name.

"It was a luxurious mode of travel, in marked contrast with that pioneer tour the Director made in June, 1906 with that first band of Dakota Playmakers, (University of North Dakota at Grand Forks) often spending hours at junction points waiting for the "accommodation" train to take them to the little prairie town at the end of the branch line.

"How different — barn-storming over eight hundred miles of the treeless Dakota plains, and now riding in royal fashion over the hills and through the valleys of the Blue Ridge, blossoming with dogwood and flaming with the Judas trees of a Carolina Spring.

A Bureau of Community Drama

"Out of the interest in a folk-theater, awakened by the activities of The Playmakers, arose a state-wide demand for guidance in dramatic expression. To meet this demand, The Bureau of Community Drama was organized by the Director of the Playmakers, five years ago, as a unit of the Extension Division of the University. A play-book service was inaugurated, bulletins containing selected plays, practical instruction in play-production and in the construction of stage equipment, and study courses in the modern drama were sent out.

"The Extension Library now contains over a thousand volumes of plays which are in constant use.

CAROLINA FOLK PLAYS**

In this, their second series, consisting of five plays, the Carolina Players have given us the further fruits of their pioneering efforts. Here is evident a serious desire to recapture the poetry, the frustrations, the longings of people who live in isolation and loneliness—of people who have been snared by circumstances into dark ways of toil and love and superstition.

The five plays give further evidence of a ripened and effective technique. The settings are austere and compelling. The dialogue which is a transcription of the talk of common folk, nevertheless reverberates now and again with poetic overtones—with images crisp and news. College workshops and amateur dramatic societies will find in these plays rich deposits of dramatic ore which can be mined at a minimum cost. Students interested in folk-drama and folk-ways will be amply rewarded by a closer study of the experiments of Frederick H. Koch and his Carolina Playmakers.

D. R.

Minnesota Masquers Produce "Kismet"

In producing "Kismet," the colorful Oriental play, reminiscent of profusion and color of *Arabian Nights*, the *Minnesota Masquers* have attempted something beyond the usual field of college dramatics.

The extravagant Oriental settings used in the Minnesota productions were designed by students. The kaleidoscopic effect of the ten scenes called for many different sets. The first and tenth scenes are laid in the street before the mosque of the carpenters; the second in the bazar street of

the tailors; the third and sixth in the courtyard before the beggar "Hajj's" house; the fourth and fifth in the hall of the wazir's mansion; the seventh in the audience hall of the caliph's palace; the eighth in the prison of the palace; the ninth in the wazir's harem.

The plot of "Kismet" deals with the startling adventures of the audacious rogue "Hajj" in the town of Bagdad during the days of the *Arabian Nights*. "Kismet" was written in 1874 but was never produced until 1911, when it was shown at the Garrick Theater, London. During that same year it was produced at the Knickerbocker Theater at New York where the play was immortalized by Otis Skinner who played the part of "Hajj."

With the two performances on January 30 and 31, the Minnesota organization is the first College dramatic club to produce "Kismet."

MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE PUZZLES MANY MONTANANS

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spring. The others flatly deny that any such action was taken.

¶ And here's where the mystery comes in. The minutes of the Athletic Board for the last two meetings last spring and the first this fall have disappeared, so there is no way to determine who is right, until some gumshoe expert discovers what has become of the record. With the opposing groups making statements that are flatly contradictory everyone is befuddled, bewildered and confused.

In a stormy session the student body voted to pay the \$300 to the coach. But the problem of the missing minutes is yet unsolved.

The *Montana Kaimin* sounds a clarion call for light:

"There are conflicting statements given by student and faculty members. Tangible evidence to prove the truth of one or the other sides given is missing. The *Kaimin* wants a thorough investigation of both sides of the question for the benefit of the whole student group and the betterment of the university . . .

"Let's have this matter out for a little airing."

(Continued from page 2, Column 3)

where it was not being done. We were uncommonly generous, too, in our own opinion, for saying "that the girls should not be interfered with, even though, well, after all it wasn't quite nice."

Now after having by accident lived for a few months where they do smoke, we are shocked by the discovery that the diatribes against the custom find us amused.

Can it be that the objections which we had thought moral and aesthetic were merely geographic?

ONE thing is certain. Though students make the greatest demands for freedom, and are strong for individuality, it is always the undergraduate body which is most severe in condemning anyone who deviates from its own general habits. There have recently been strong denials of Mr. Robson's assertion that American colleges tolerate no real individualism. Well, some individuals smoke.

People who disagreed with Mr. Robson are now out to make it uncomfortable for them. Isn't it funny?

A HEAVY DATE ON A SLIM PURSE

IS EMBARRASSING

A DATE WITH HELOISE ON ABELARD'S CHECK-BOOK

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